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Worldwide Report

TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICY,
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

No. 200

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MADRAS-PENANG CABLE LINK OPENED, PLANS TOLD

Madras THE HINDU in English 25 Dec 81 p 9

[Text]

MADRAS Dec 24

India and the United Arab Emirates would be linked by a submarine telephone cable system in the next two or three years. The link on the Indian side would be from Bombay.

Announcing this here today, Mr C M Stephen, Union Minister for Communications, said the project would help complete the submarine cable circuit girdling the globe. It is estimated to cost Rs 50 crores.

The Minister was inaugurating the Madras-Penang Indian Ocean Commonwealth Submarine Cable System and the Overseas Communication Services new building complex, Vidish Sanchar Bhavan, which houses the terminal facilities like the international gateway telephone, telegraph and telex exchanges.

Talk with Malaysian Minister: The inauguration was marked by a telephone conversation between Mr Stephen and a Malaysian Minister. He told the



Malaysian Minister that the establishment of the new cable system would further strengthen the ties between the two countries and also help improve communications with the Western world.

The Malaysian Minister, in his response, said the cable link would also help in improving business relations

between the people of the two countries. He extended Christmas and New Year greetings to the Minister.

The ICOM is a joint venture with six other Commonwealth administrations of Malaysia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Australia, Britain and Canada.

The Governor, Mr Sadiq Ali, who presided, released a special stamp brought out on the occasion by the Posts and Telegraphs Department. The stamp depicts a map showing the cable link.

India's relations with Malaysia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Australia and other Commonwealth countries would be further promoted by the new service made available by the Overseas Communication Service, he said.

Mr K. Thomas Kora, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Communications, welcomed the gathering and Mr K. C. Kariyer, Director-General of OCS, proposed a vote of thanks.

CSO: 5500/7060

BRIEFS

INDIA-KUWAIT SATELLITE LINK--Kuwait, Dec 14.--The first satellite news channel between India and Kuwait became operational today, reports UNI. The channel carries UNI news to Kuwait radio and television and will make it possible for other media in the country also to receive the news. The Kuwait News Agency has plans to commission a similar line to carry its despatches to India. [Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 15 Dec 81 p 9]

VIETNAM-USSR TELEPHONE LINK--The post and telegraph service of Thai Binh Province has recently completed its 3 telephone projects linking the province's office with various business centers and the Hoa Sen ground-satellite communication station. Noteworthy is the telephone line between the province and Moscow which has been satisfactorily linked. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 29 Dec 81 BK]

CSO: 5500/2085

BRIEFS

SOUTH ASIA CABLE LINKS--A wide band coaxial cable link between Amritsar and Lahore will be established soon as part of the Asian telecommunication network, reports UNI. Another coaxial cable link will also be established between Jodhpur and Mirpur Khas in Pakistan. Under the Asian network scheme, telecommunication links are to be improved with all the neighbouring countries. The Posts and Telegraphs department has planned a wide band microwave system between Madurai and Rameshwaram and another system between Rameswaram and Colombo to link India with Sri Lanka. In addition a narrow band microwave system will be commissioned between Manner and Jaffna in Sri Lanka. A trans-border microwave link between Krishnanagar in India and Chuadanga in Bangladesh has already been commissioned. In the case of Nepal, a wide band microwave system between Patna-Muzaffarpur-Raxaul and a wide band coaxial cable link between Raxaul and Birganj (Nepal) are to be provided. The work on the Indian territory is complete and cable laying in Nepal territory is in progress. An Indo-Bhutan microwave link connecting Hashimara with Thimpu is being set up under bilateral arrangement. These new links are established in pursuance of an agreement reached between UN, ESCAP, UNDP, the International Telecommunication Union and various countries in the region. [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 2 Jan 82 p 6]

CSO: 5500/7064

INSAT IMPACT IN COMMUNICATIONS DISCUSSED

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 1 Jan 82 p 20

[Article by H. Kusumakar]

[Text] Bangalore--Space scientists have their eyes turned on April 8, 1982, when India enters a revolutionary era of modern communications via its domestic satellite system.

On that day, the first of the two Indian National Satellites (INSAT) will be shot into space to stay there for seven years, 35, 784 km. above India. It will provide the country with greatly enhanced--and much needed--capability in internal communications and mark the beginning of putting space technology for practical use on a national scale.

The second INSAT will follow a year later. This, too, will have a seven-year life.

The greatest impact of INSAT will be on mass communications--telephony, radio and television. The way will be open to establish over 8,000 two-way long-distance telephony circuits, potentially accessible from any part of India, a nationwide television coverage in one step and radio programme distribution. This is apart from the satellite's meteorological observation mission.

Indeed, INSAT is a multi-purpose, multi-dimensional satellite and in its sweep and range as well as cost effectiveness, it is unmatched, says Dr. P. P. Kale, INSAT (space segment) project director. As he narrates the INSAT story, it is clear that the project has gone through a long evolutionary process over the past decades and more to reach its present stages of near-fruition when various systems are being integrated and final touches are being given to the master control facility at Hassan in Karnataka.

Hassan, the district headquarters overlooking the western ghats, known for its coffee plantations and cattle fairs, is stepping into the space map of India as it becomes the heart of the INSAT programme. After the satellite is placed in geostationary orbit--which means that the satellite is synchronised with the speed of the earth's rotation, making it appear that the satellite is stationary relative to the earth--Hassan will gradually take over the monitoring operations.

India's department of space has concluded a contract with Ford Aerospace and Communications Corporation of the U.S. for the supply of two INSAT satellites and equipment for the master control facility at Hassan. NASA will provide launching and associated services for INSAT-I on a cost-reimbursement basis.

The entire INSAT project is expected to cost Rs. 113 crores.

The multi-purpose design of INSAT satellites includes payloads (data-collecting equipment carried by the spacecraft) which will simultaneously provide high quality voice and data communications between 35 major locations in India, high-power video transmission for direct broadcasts to thousands of low-cost television, radio and disaster warning receivers throughout the country and meteorological observations of the weather systems transmitted to the meteorological data utilisation centre in Delhi.

In the area of communications, India will gain capability which is equal to the initial Canadian and U.S. domestic satellite systems--12 transponders, each having the capacity for 1,200 voice or data channels or two television channels. The network of earth stations will have to be implemented by the posts and telegraphs department.

About 100,000 low-cost community television receivers--being built indigenously--can be operated in rural areas, sea surface, cloud-top temperatures, water bodies and snow-mapping.

The telecommunications component enables the installation of several thousand long-distance telephony circuits, besides better reliability and flexibility and greater immunity from breakdowns and natural disasters.

Indigenous Effort

Because of the variety of the potential uses of INSAT, the department of space has brought into a system of co-ordination several government agencies--the ministry of tourism and civil aviation, the ministry of communications and the ministry of information and broadcasting, including Doordarshan.

"Much indigenous effort has gone into making some of the sub-systems of INSAT. For example, a control console providing direct computer access for real-time operations control and monitoring of the satellite has been made by the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre. Some other sub-systems have been developed by the space application centre of the Indian Space Research Organisation and engineering companies, both in the public and private sector. "Indigenisation as far as possible," has been the guiding spirit.

"INSAT is a daring transition from the several stages of experimentation that India has gone through, leasing satellites of other countries at great cost, including the Satellite Instructional Television Experiment (SITE) and Satellite Telecommunications Experiment Project (STEP). SITE, a collaborative programme with USA's ATS-6, a geostationary satellite, covered 2,400 villages, and STEP, in collaboration with yet another borrowed satellite, "Symphonie", was an experiment in remote area communications. INSAT, which has been made to Indian specifications and paid for fully, will be India's own and first satellite to be used for a long-term and reliable domestic communication service. The sociological and economic advantages it opens up can indeed be immense."

PROBLEMS OF SUPPLYING TELEPHONE EQUIPMENT DISCUSSED

Committee Report Rejected

Madras THE HINDU in English 16 Dec 81 p 6

[Text]

NEW DELHI, Dec 15

Mr. C. M. Stephen, Union Minister for Communications, told newsmen here today that the Government had rejected the recommendation of the high-power committee on telecommunications headed by Mr. H. C. Sanni that one lakh telephones be imported to meet the immediate needs of the Posts and Telegraphs Department.

"We have the capacity to manufacture telephones," he said, "and there is no need for import."

Mr. Stephen, who was receiving the final report of the committee, summed up the committee's work and the major thrust of its recommendations and said the Government would take decisions on them within three weeks from now.

He said it would be possible to give a telephone to anybody who asked for it only in 1990. It would, however, be possible to clear those on the waiting list at the end of March 1987 by 1985 end. The Sanni committee had recommended that telephone connections be given on demand by 1988 and

IT doing well

Asked about the complaint of the Electronics Trade and Technology Development Corporation (ETTCO) that the Indian Telephone Industries was

trying to perpetuate its "monopoly" in telephone manufacture, Mr. Stephen said, "I don't want to compliment or cast aspersions on anybody but ITI is an important production unit."

Its production may not be up to the mark and its technology may not be up to date, but it is the biggest telephone manufacturer in the country."

He also rejected ETTCO's contention that collaboration for the manufacture of sophisticated telephones was not necessary. "Collaboration is a must," he said, though no decision had yet been taken on the offers made by Siemens of West Germany and Eric of Italy.

Electronic exchange: Answering a question on the choice of collaborations for the two new factories for building electronic exchange equipment for 500,000 lines each, Mr. Stephen said the tenders would be opened on March 31, 1982.

Another question on the subject elicited the reply that "it is open to us to accept an offer of technology from the French."

No decision had yet been taken on who would manage the two factories — ITI or another agency.

There was no proposal under the consideration of the Government to

take matters relating to electronic exchanges away from the Posts and Telegraphs Department.

Unanimous report: Mr. Sanni, who presented the final report to Mr. Stephen said it was a unanimous one. Telecommunications deserved a much higher priority than it had got now, he thought.

One of the contributory factors for the inefficiency of the telephone system, he said, was that we had far too many users and too few telephones. "We have about 0.4 telephone for a population of 100 as against some countries 50 per 100. This increased vastly the problem of maintenance."

The committee had looked into the reorganisation of the Telegraphs Department also. Mr. Stephen had started implementing some of the recommendations made in the earlier reports of the committee. "It will take four or five years of sustained efforts to achieve results," Mr. Sanni said.

The committee was constituted by the Government on May 27, 1981. Its first report was submitted on June 24, the second on July 10, third on October 21, fourth on October 30, fifth on November 10, sixth on November 21, seventh on November 30 and the eighth and last today.

Equipment Imports Planned

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 26 Dec 81 p 9

[Text]

NEW DELHI, December 25

MORE than Rs. 600 crore worth of telephone switching equipment will have to be imported during the current decade and unless a third electronic switch-

ing factory is set up to start production by 1986-87, the gap between demand and indigenous supply may continue well beyond the seventh plan period.

The electronics department fears

the suggestion of the combination of new domestic capital the imports may be substantially higher than the projected figures.

Considering the "gravity" of the situation, the electronics department has proposed steps to reduce the quantity of imports from Rs. 100 million to Rs. 50 million.

The note by the electronics department suggests the state communication corporations for an increased role in the manufacture of telecommunications equipment.

It suggests that the two large electronic switching factories proposed by the ministry of communications should be set up simultaneously and not one after the other. This would result in an additional production of seven million lines over the decade.

The posts and telegraphs department has projected a gap of more than 2.3 million lines of local switching equipment between demand and supply during 1965-66. This equipment would cost more than Rs. 500 crores in foreign exchange. Another Rs. 100 crores would be required to import 1.8 lakh lines of automatic trunk exchanges.

These projections have taken into account production at the proposed factory at Rajahmundry from 1963-64 in respect of local switching equipment.

Another factory at Pughat is slated to start production from 1963-64 of trunk automatic exchange equipment. The two large electronic switching factories with a total capacity of one million units per year are expected to begin production from 1964-65 and 1965-66 respectively.

The Sain committee on telecommunications, which has also taken note of the growing imports, is in agreement with the electronics department on the need for the two electronic switching units starting production simultaneously. Instead of the second factory being commissioned two years after the first.

MORE TELECOM PANEL RECOMMENDATIONS REPORTED

Madras THE HINDU in English 2 Jan 82 p 6

[Text]

NEW DELHI Jan 1

The location of one of the two proposed factories for the production of telecommunication electronic switching equipment capable of handling 500,000 lines should be in Bangalore as a new production unit and as part of the Indian Telephone Industries Ltd (ITI), says the high-powered committee on telecommunications set up under the chairmanship of Mr H C Senn.

These and a large number of other recommendations have been made by the committee in its fifth report submitted to the Government recently along with three more reports. (Contents of the earlier recommendations have already been reported).

The committee has taken note of the Government's decision that both the factories should be under the Ministry of Communications but one of them should be outside the control of the ITI. It has expressed no view on this point.

Strongly recommending the location of one of the two factories at Bangalore, the committee says, "The advantages would be that considerable research and development and production capabilities exist in the ITI, Bangalore and will be available for the new unit, thus helping in stepping up production in a relatively short period. Further, this would help to employ some of the persons who are likely to become

surplus in the existing unit with the planned phasing out of Strowger production."

Elucidation of ITI: Having said this, the committee has however recommended the separation of the existing ITI into two public sector undertakings, one consisting of the Bangalore complex and the Palghat unit and the second consisting of the Naini complex, the Rae Bareilly factory and the small unit at Srinagar.

Giving reasons for this, the committee has expressed the view that "in such factory organisations manufacturing a variety of equipment, there is an optimum size beyond which the viability and overall performance get affected. If units are medium sized and viable, problems can be more clearly identified, they can be managed better and higher operational efficiency can be achieved."

Yet another major recommendation made by the committee is that Hindustan Cables which has factories at Rupsanapur (Assam) and Hyderabad, and which at present under the Ministry of Industry, should be transferred to the Ministry of Communications. The transfer, it says, will ensure close and effective co-ordination between the P and T and Hindustan Cables in the optimum utilisation of resources. "While making this recommendation, the committee has expressed itself in favour of an earlier recommendation of the

Administrative Reforms Commission.

The committee has urged that the two proposed factories for the production of electronic switching system (ESS) be set up simultaneously instead of commencing production in the second factory two years after the first. "Based on this assumption", it says, "the output from these factories has been reviewed taking into account the revised date of March 31, 1982 for the receipt of offers and the schedules thereafter for signing of the collaboration agreement and of production included in the bid invitation document."

Telex units from Palghat: The committee has recommended that the Palghat unit of the ITI should be entrusted with the production of a whole range of sizes of telex exchanges using ITI designs for small-sized telex exchanges and foreign collaboration for producing larger ones. The arrangements for the production of both types of exchanges in Palghat should be speeded up so as to meet as much of the requirements as possible from indigenous sources.

The committee wants the negotiations for collaboration for the manufacture of digital trunk automatic exchange (TAX) equipment at Palghat to be finalised and other steps for starting production completed on a high priority basis so that the programme can be realised in the 1980-85 period.

CSO: 5500/7063

EDITORIAL NOTES NEED FOR IMPROVED COMMUNICATIONS

Madras THE HINDU in English 26 Dec 81 p 8

[Editorial: "Improved Communications: What It Means"]

[Text]

FROM CHRISTMAS EVE Madras has become a gateway centre in the international communications system. The other three centres operated by the Overseas Communications Service are Bombay, New Delhi and Calcutta. The aim is to step up the quality and pace of service as well as the contacts between Indian and international telecommunication circuits in the interests of the subscribers in the regions covered by these four gateways. Communication by satellite has no doubt transformed the situation beyond the wildest of dreams, but it is thought useful and wise to bolster it with other and conventional channels too. India's geographical position, we are warned, is such that in respect of satellite facilities in the area between the United Kingdom in the West and Japan in the East, there are limitations. Further, communication by cable and communication by satellite each serves as a reliable back-up for the other. And if and when a cableway is established between Bombay and Kuwait, all the gaps in the global submarine telephone cable system will disappear making this system fully complementary to the troposcatter transmission (as is available between India and Russia) and the satellite communication arrangements. The Madras-Penang link of the Indian Ocean Commonwealth (IOCOM) cable project which formally went into operation on Thursday is a latecomer in the sense that the original communication layout adopted several years ago between Sydney and Singapore via an Indian gateway centre bypassed India for which reason it does not matter now. Now that the Madras gateway has come into being, the competence of this centre to handle international traffic between the subscribers in this region and the world outside has been considerably enlarged.

According to Government spokesmen, because of the availability of reliable communication aids, India's international telephone traffic went up by 8 times and the telex traffic by 3 times in the years 1971-75. The scores for 1980-81 are 14 times and 6 times respectively. These figures by themselves cannot tell the full story. The truth could be that the authorities have to step up the traffic by a very much bigger multiplier if India is to get into the world business map more decisively. The introduction and expansion of what is described as the SPC (Stored Programme Controlled) type of electronic telephone switching system will help cover many countries other than Britain which alone is now available for direct dialling. Experience with international telephoning via satellite has revealed the attainment of greater clarity and promptness of service in overseas calls. If this attracts more traffic, the load on the domestic system will be that much heavier. Which means that the domestic exchanges and channels have also to be vastly improved and upgraded.

At the same time the Government has to remember that better communication is a means to an end and not an end in itself and that the apparently phenomenal spurt in international traffic has to be viewed against the low base of operations in the 1971-75 period. In fact, the present volume of communication traffic is — even as the overall business activity is — too small for an economy of India's size. The catch here is the not so very helpful economic policy which, out of politico-egalitarian considerations, has tended to restrain initiative from taking the venturesome leaps into global business as warranted by considerations of national industrial maturity.

INDIA

BRIEFS

SATELLITE IRS TO HAVE TWO SENSORS--The Indian Remote Sensing Satellite, IRS-1, to be launched in 1985, will have two sensors with a resolution close to that of the U.S. satellite. This has been revealed in a paper on space technology submitted at the Indian Science Congress in Mysore by Dr Y.S. Rajan of the Indian Space Research Organization, Bangalore. [Text] [BK070947 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0738 GMT 7 Jan 82]

ELECTRONIC TELEPRINTER PRODUCTION--Calcutta, Jan. 1 (UNI)--The country will shortly have electronic teleprinters in place of the electro-mechanical ones at present. Communication Secretary S K Ghose told newsmen that the Hindustan Machine tools, the manufacturers of present teleprinters, was expected to produce the electronic teleprinters at Hosu in Tamilnadu. The annual capacity of the Hosu plant was expected to be 10,000. [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 2 Jan 82 p 6]

CSO: 5500/7065

STEPS TO CHECK INDIAN SATELLITE EFFECTS

Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 6 Jan 82 p 10

[Text] Karachi, Jan 5--Pakistan is taking measures over developments being made by the Indian satellite system as it has the potential to affect "our communication satellite."

Official sources told PPI here today that the Government was aware of developments taking place in the Indian communication satellite system by using very sophisticated and versatile techniques.

They said that India's first generation national satellite (Insat-1)--a multi purpose operational geo-stationary system for domestic telecommunications, nationwide direct TV and radio broadcasting to rural areas, meteorological imaging and data relay, is expected to be in orbit during the next few weeks.

The second satellite (Insat-2) is scheduled for launch in 1982. This satellite will be used not only by all Indian radio, but the system is also expected to strengthen the long distance links with various Indian cities and remote areas through 31 stations.

They said the Indian Oil and Natural Gas Commission is also establishing earth stations to monitor the performance of oil wells and safety data through telemetry.

The Indian Meteorological Department and the Indian Defence agencies are also expected to reap their share of benefits from it.

These sources said that TV owners in Pakistan will be able to monitor the international programmes offered through direct satellite broadcasting system in a few years.

Multi-national broadcasting corporations are already working to devise programmes for international audiences.--PPI

CSO: 5500/4531

BRIEFS

MEETING ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS SECURITY--A recent conference on maintaining security on telecommunications lines, convened by the provincial public security department and posts and telecommunications bureau, demanded that the public security and posts and telecommunications departments at all levels, together with the units concerned, seriously do a good job in protecting the lines to ensure a free flow of communications traffic. Henan, located on the central plain, is in a very important communications position. Maintaining communications security within the province is of particularly great importance for maintaining a free flow of communications traffic throughout the province. The departments concerned must uphold the principle of concentrating on prevention and carry out sustained propaganda on protecting the lines. They must launch and rely on the masses to spontaneously protect telecommunications lines. Criminals who sabotage telecommunications lines and block and cut communications must be punished according to law. Such cases must be promptly reported and cracked, and effective blows must be dealt at those responsible. With regard to external accidents that damage telecommunications lines, it is necessary to act according to the relevant state regulations, deal with the matter seriously, find out who is responsible and arrange for compensation for damage, to ensure a secure and smooth flow of communications traffic. Thus telecommunications and communications will be able to play a still better role in building socialist material and spiritual civilization. [Text] [HK160536 Zhengzhou Henan Provincial Service in Mandarin 1100 GMT 13 Jan 82]

CSO: 5500/4006

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

BUDAPEST, BELGRADE RADIO AGREEMENT--Budapest, 13 Jan (MTI)--Representatives of the Budapest and the Belgrade radios--Kalman Kiss, deputy president of the Hungarian Radio, and Branislav Dadic, director of the Belgrade radio--signed a two-year cooperation workplan in Budapest on Wednesday. The document stipulates the forms of cooperation between the two institutions, including mutual observance of the significant anniversaries of the Hungarian People's Republic and the Serb Socialist Republic. It has also been agreed that the two radio stations will run joint music entertainment programs and will present the cultural and arts life of the other country. The Hungarian radio will receive colleagues from the partner radio and act as host for them at folk music festivals and at events of the Budapest art weeks. The Belgrade radio will similarly receive Hungarian colleagues. In the next two years reporters of the two radios will record actual economic, political, cultural, youth and sports information programs in one another's country. [Text] [LD131950 Budapest MTI in English 1718 GMT 13 Jan 82]

CSO: 5500/2088

CLANDESTINE ON NEW TRANSMITTERS, IRANIAN OPPOSITION

NC220938 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 21 Jan 82

[Text] In the name of God, the almighty, and with the assistance of the prophet 'Ali, today our two new transmitters in the north and west of our country became operational. One shortwave transmitter on the 41 meter band, 7185 kHz, and another shortwave transmitter on the 92 meter band, 3369 kHz, will, in addition to our shortwave transmitter on the 31 meter band, relay the programs of the Free Voice of Iran.

The formation of the front for the salvation of Iran and the coalition of groups opposing Khomeyni's regime, together with the operation of the new transmitters, will be taken as a good omen. We hope that with the help and (?support) of all our brothers and sisters we shall be able to topple the usurping and criminal regime of Khomeyni which, for 3 years now, has kept our compatriots under the most severe oppression, censorship and dictatorship, and also started fratricide in our country. We hope to establish a national and legal government and to clear the path for Iran's salvation from oppression, (?destruction) and injustice. In this holy and national path we will need the assistance of each and everyone of our freedom-seeking compatriots, of the brave Kurdish, Qashqa'i, Bakhtiari, Azari, Torkaman and Baluchi tribes as well as of the other groups within the country. (?The efforts of everyone for making our messages heard by the people) [words indistinct] can help our victory greatly. Hoping for the success of efforts in creating solidarity and a coalition among the opposition groups, we will open our program with the text of Dr 'Ali Amini's interview because of its contents' importance simultaneous with the commencement of the operation of the new transmitters.

CSO: 5500/5321

IRAN

TELEPHONE PRIORITIES GO TO RURAL AREAS, WAR ZONES

Teheran KEYHAN in Persian 7 Dec 81 p 13

[Interview with Engineer Mahmud Va'ez, deputy chief of the Telecommunications Company of Iran]

[Text] The deputy chief of the Telecommunications Company of Iran announced that the priority of services of this company go to the war zones, rural areas, and remote cities and provinces of oppressed people and until they are ready, the new telephone services will not be given to the big cities.

Engineer Mahmud Va'ez, the deputy chief of the Telecommunications of the Ministry of Post, Telegraph and Telephone and deputy chief of the Telecommunications Company of Iran in an interview with the PARS NEWS AGENCY explained the accomplished activities and future programs of this company.

Engineer Va'ez said, "The telecommunications system of Iran is a completely technical and complex system and its planning and designing must be calculated and done carefully. In the past all of Iran's communications plans and designs, including personnel matters and maintenance was done by Americans and other foreigners and with regard to the principal motto of our revolution which is the independence and freedom of the Islamic Republic, all these affairs must be done without reliance on the east or west superpowers and with the hand of our responsible sister and brother specialists. In this regard, with the help of the responsible and compassionate and experienced brothers and colleagues, we have established a high council for planning. This council, in studying all the human and cultural needs of society with attention to the country's deprived and poor areas, will implement its plans in two phases: midterm in 5 years and long term in 20 years. The midterm plan has started for a while and has had successful results. These successes are due to the fact that our revolution, with all existing problems such as war and economic restrictions, has stabilized, and the ministries and organizations presented their midterm and long range plans. Also, responsible Iranians and those with special training who had been ignored in the past and were not used have shown their talents and proved they are capable of undertaking all the functions."

The deputy chief of the Telecommunications Company, in answering about future priorities of the plans regarding new telephone services in the country said: "According to our midterm program, the first priority goes to the war regions,

and then concordant with other organizations serving in rural services like public health, energy, agriculture and others we gave 1600 villages telephone services and contrary to the previous regime which wanted the villagers to migrate to the big cities, we want people to rush from the cities to the villages."

He added: "The third priority is given to the remote and deprived cities and the next priority goes to the oppressed dwellings and deprived provinces and the later expansion of the telecommunications services will be given to organizations of revolutionary nature and the executive branches."

About the designing of telecommunications systems he said: "In the previous regime, the design of the telecommunications system was done by an American team and at the present time this task is done by responsible Iranian colleagues. To improve their knowledge we have arranged a one and a half year training course. Thus, in the future the quality of their work can be improved much more."

Engineer Va'ezl, deputy chief of the Telecommunications Company of Iran on the topic of the self-sufficiency of the company told the PARS NEWS AGENCY reporter: "We cannot stay purchasers all the time and must as soon as possible use the talent and minds of our brothers and sisters in order to meet our internal needs. This war has caused most of our domestic needs to be provided by ourselves. On this basis the telecommunications Company established a Center for studying Telecommunications in order to plan and provide the short term needs and plan the long term programs on the basis of domestic production. I want to thank the outstanding and unceasing activities of my colleagues in this center and the other colleagues whom have met all the war needs in the best manner and under such sensitive conditions."

He added: "Our other policy is the production of domestic goods, even though these products are more expensive and inferior to similar samples."

The deputy chief of the Telecommunications Company about the job security of the employees of this company said: "All the colleagues who are not against the Islamic revolution can be sure that we will use their cooperation, skills and experiences with open arms, but that God's Party forces must withstand opportunist hypocrites and counterrevolutionaries who have entered the company through influence. As we resisted the Devil, purging of these employees must not worry others about their job insecurity."

The deputy chief of the Telecommunications Company in regard to the number of telephones in Tehran and the receipts in the hands of the people said: "At the present time, 900,000 telephone numbers all over the country are at the disposal of the people. Among them 450,000 belong to Tehran, and also about 300,000 telephone receipts are in the hands of applicants and some have been waiting 14 years. At the present time, no telephone applications are accepted in Tehran and no telephone receipts are given. Presenting telephones to those with receipts is dependent on availability and the people must consider that each telephone number costs us around 32,000 to 40,000 tumans. I am sure that in this economic condition, responsible people do not wish this country's foreign currency to fall into the hands of the plunderers."

He added: "Of course, by taking advantage of existing possibilities we were able to make preparations for providing 18,500 telephone numbers in Tehran and in the near future these will be given to the people of Tehran. Of these, 5,000 will belong to the Ekhtiarich Center, 5,000 to the City Center, 5,000 to the Tajrish Center, 2,000 to Darian Now and 1,500 to Ekbatan Center. We hope that the problem related to the telephone cable will be solved and in a few months applications who have receipts from before will be given telephones."

About the time of use of telephones, he asked people to keep the use of public and private telephones to a maximum of 3 to 5 minutes and to try to keep the lines free in order that connections can be improved.

The deputy chief of the Telecommunications Company in this regard added: "We have received many complaints that some people use public telephones more than the permitted time and keep people waiting in the rain and summer heat. In this connection, it is very easy for us to use a system that after a three minute conversation the phone be disconnected, but we ask the people to observe this matter and to take care of the telephone and telephone booths and do not take advantage of the unauthorized use of their private calls."

About the scarcity of two rial coins and the problems this causes for people he said: "For the convenience of the people we have installed a special public telephone in an area of Tehran and if the user is out of 2 rial coins he can use 5 rial coins and the people have welcomed this."

He added: "The purpose of using this system which gradually will be installed in the other areas is not to obtain more income or the increased price of telephone services, although more money is charged, but the convenience of the people."

He also asked the telephone subscribers to pay their telephone bills on time because if they are not paid on time the telephone's automatic computer system will disconnect their telephone and late payments will create a big problem for us and financial loss for the subscriber.

Engineer Va'ez, the deputy chief of the Telecommunications Company, about the problem of dialing long distance and the existing connections said, "The specialists of this company with the use of previously purchased equipment are trying to fix this problem."

About the expansion of the telephone factory in Shiraz, the deputy chief of the Telecommunications Company said, "The capacity of this factory is the production of 100,000 telephones a year. With the efforts of our responsible brothers this factory was for the first time able to produce at its capacity. If needed, we could expand its production to 110,000 or up to 120,000 telephones, but at the present time there is no need for increased production. Also we are trying to change the telephone system from electromechanic to electronic. The Center for the study of Telecommunications is working to implement this system which has higher volume and whose maintenance is easier."

About the activities of the Telecommunications company in the war regions he said, "Some missions have visited all the war regions and the necessary studies have been done, but for security reasons we cannot announce it. Engineer Va'ez,

the deputy chief of the Telecommunications Company, about the Telecommunications College said: "According to the decision of the revolutionary education headquarters, all the technical colleges will fall under the Technical University and our organization is in need of graduates in four areas from these schools."

9815

CSO: 5500/5315

BRIEFS

ABDEH TELEPHONE LINK--Bidak Village's automatic telephone exchange has been opened in the presence of the Abadeh governor and clergymen. Bidak villagers now have direct telephone links with other regions. [GF151724 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1500 GMT 14 Jan 82 GF]

NEW TRANSMITTERS--Dear compatriots, in order to further improve the quality of sound and ensure closer contact with the rising Iranian nation, Radio Iran has successfully established two more radio transmitters with the help of the self-sacrificing combatants of the national resistance movement of Iran. The two new Radio Iran transmitters will become operational on Friday, 22 January 1982. Therefore, Radio Iran programs will be carried on the 41 meterband, corresponding to 7174 kHz, and 91.8 meters, corresponding to 3358 kHz, as well as on the 31 meterband. [Text] [GF200731 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 19 Jan 82]

CSO: 5500/5321

ETHIOPIA

BRIEFS

NEW TELEVISION STATIONS--The Ethiopian Information and National Guidance Ministry yesterday inaugurated the two television program transmission stations which it built in the towns of Dire Dawa and Harrar at a cost of 1.2 million birr. It has been disclosed that the two transmission stations, which became operational yesterday, would contribute greatly to publicizing the progress and achievements of the Ethiopian revolution, and the development of the broad masses Marxist-Leninist consciousness and scope of knowledge. [Text] [EA180114 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1000 GMT 17 Jan 82]

CSO: 5500/2088

DISRUPTIONS AT ANIVONIMAMO DISRUPT INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS

Toumanarive MADAGASCAR MATIN in French 10 Dec 81 p 3

/Text/ The present "panic" among users of telex and telephone facilities for international communications is no doubt due to the slight dissemination given the Posts and Telecommunications Ministry's communique of 26 November 1981.

For our part, we did not receive it. But it is never too late for a good deed.

In business enterprises, banks, and hotels, there is "panic." An important international businessman is unable to communicate with his head office in Europe. He is not alone. For some time, telex and telephone facilities have not functioned as before in international communications. And even television viewers no longer have worldwide televised news. An upsetting, tongue-in-cheek little piece which appeared in one of our recent issues put all that little world in an uproar. The explanation for all that commotion was not long in coming.

Explanations

And that is well. For now we know why nothing remains as it was in the field of international communications. There was no major technical breakdown of installations. Still less does the explanation lie in any of those fanciful versions put forward, more or less aptly, by everyone. The automatic telex linking Madagascar to the world, automatic international telephone, and televised news pictures form a whole, which reaches us by a system of satellite communication. Now such systems are evolving very rapidly, in response to user demand. The greater the demand for the services of a satellite, the greater must be its capacity.

Since 13 April 1971 STIMAD [International Telecommunications Company of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar] has worked with the INTELSAT IV satellite which orbits over us at a height of over 36,000 km. The orbiting of a new reservation satellite known as INTELSAT V, to replace it, requires certain installations at the Anivonimamo tracking station, which televiewers saw

Wednesday evening on their screens, and where the huge parabolic antennas, 30 m in diameter, must be modernized in preparation for the day when INTELSAT V becomes fully operational.

As was pointed out to us yesterday by chief telecommunications engineer Willy Raelison of STIMAD, we note that the entry into service of INTELSAT V will not improve the technical quality of reception for international communications, which already meet international standards.

On the other hand, the necessary modifications now undertaken at Arivonimamo are seriously disrupting international communications. Do not be surprised. Everything will return to order about 20 December. Meanwhile, we must show patience, for to remedy the situation we have relied on the Alarobia radio-electricity facilities. We have thus reverted to grandfather's telecommunications system, with all that entails in frequent interruptions, numerous hours of delay, and fading phenomena (the dying away of sound from the telephone receiver which is so unpleasant). "Nothing can be done about it," confided Mr. Raelison, intimating that patience is needed to attain a better situation. That is also the opinion of Mr. Rakotofiringa, his director, who hoped users would show "understanding" of this temporary emergency solution.

Actually, international radio communications are limited as much by crowding of the electromagnetic frequency spectrum as by propagation anomalies. The growth and diversification of this international traffic dictates the use of high-capacity means of telecommunication. This has been done since the early 1970's thanks to a very dynamic Franco-Malagasy cooperation in the building of the Arivonimamo ground station, with its INTELSAT IV type satellite placed in orbit over the Atlantic. Weighing 750 kg, that satellite can relay simultaneously 5,000 telephone conversations, and one or more televised transmissions, between the 25 ground stations which, like that at Arivonimamo, have their antennas permanently aimed in its direction.

In the INTELSAT V era, things will perhaps be no better technically, but the capacity for communications with the outside world will certainly be increased. And for an island at the end of the world, such as ours, that will bring the world a little closer to our doorstep!

6145

030: 07/0/5/55

SITUATION OF RADIO ZAMBIA, ZBS 'VERY SERIOUS'

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 6 Jan 82 p 1

[Text]

THE Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has cancelled leave for Zambia Broadcasting Services engineers.

The directive was issued by the Minister Mr Mark Tambatamba in Lusaka yesterday after he was informed that unless transmitters at Shorthorn and Twin Palm stations were repaired quickly Radio Zambia would go off the air.

He was told this when he toured the two transmitter stations accompanied by ZBS director-general Mr Alport Phiri, assistant secretaries in the ministry Mr Emmanuel Nyirenda and Reverend Roger Ng'ombe and acting ZBS chief engineer Mr Eddie Mupeso.

At Shorthorn station Mr Tambatamba was told that there was only one output valve working instead of two.

At the moment the transmitter was relaying Home Service at less the required capacity, while External Service has been off the air since last April and the General Service for the past one month.

The 200 kw valves which cost about K2,000 each can work effectively for 1,000

hours.

On Monday the Home Service was off the air at the transmitters from morning to about 13 hours because of problems involving valves in the audio frequency system.

Mr Phiri said if the Party and the Government allowed the ZBS to scout for equipment for transmitters such problems could not arise.

Mr Mupeso told Mr Tambatamba that if the ZBS was given about K50,000 the Shorthorn transmitters would be repaired.

Mr Tambatamba who described the situation as "very serious" said since there were difficulties in maintaining the existing equipment "it would not make sense to go in to new areas."

However, he cautioned engineering staff at the transmitters against negligence, drunkenness and mishandling of equipment.

At the Twin Palm transmitters External and General services transmitters were not working because of the shortage of valves.

Senior maintenance engineer in-charge at the station Mr Joseph Fraser, said he had personally improvised a spare

part to bring one Home Service transmitter into service.

Mr Tambatamba was shown a 120-kw transmitter which has not worked properly since its installation in 1967 because of components problem.

He urged the staff to ensure that the transmitter was operational and instructed senior superintendent engineer Mr Kwal Saddi not to approve leave applications until the situation had improved.

The minister noted that several senior engineering staff were on leave or about to go on leave, and this had prompted him to direct that all leave be cancelled and those resting be recalled.

He said that the ZBS was not able to render the service to the nation as expected particularly when an impression had been created that the service would improve when the multi-million Kwacha mass complex became operational.

"I must say that we would have done better but the initial planning of the project was not properly coordinated. The situation in this case is that radio reception will not improve when the mass media complex becomes operational."

U.S. TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER CONTROLS HOLD UP FIRM'S SOVIET SALES

East Bloc Sales Vital

Helsinki UUSO SUOMI in Finnish 3 Nov 81 p 22

[Text] L. M. Ericsson's [LMF] export of telephone exchanges to the Soviet Union has met with continuing difficulties from two different directions.

In Finland, the License Agency has so far denied L. M. Ericsson an export permit for the Zaporzhje sale the company made an agreement on last January.

Now the Swedes are claiming, according to VECKANS AFFARER, that Nokia is lobbying to prevent the LME export of the AXE exchange to the Soviet Union because Nokia itself is trying to sell its own system which is based on the French Cit-alcatel license.

LME last spring submitted a license application which the License Agency turned down in the summer. Now the company has submitted a new application which, according to the LME technical director, Jarl-Erik Nylund, meets the requirement for 80 per-cent domestic input.

The License Agency however has not yet made a decision on LME's new application.

The AXE exchanges have U.S. components that the United States has classified as having strategic importance. Their exportation to the Soviet Union requires an export license from the U.S. Government.

LME has not yet been able to solve this problem either, although the company's representatives have been traveling both to the United States and the Soviet Union.

East Bloc Market Important

Although the L. M. Ericsson concern has made major trade agreements with Western markets, it would be important for the company to gain a foothold also in the Eastern bloc.

One of LME's toughest competitors in the Soviet market has been the Yugoslav Nikola Tesla factory, which also holds an Ericsson license.

Also Finns, mostly Nokia but also foreign tele-enterprises operating in Finland have been viewing the Soviet markets.

The product development expenses for the new digital exchanges have been so high that Finland's market alone does not seem to be large enough. Also, the saturation degree of the domestic market is beginning to be fairly high.

Editorial Comments on Export Problem

Helsinki UUSI SUOMI in Finnish 4 Nov 81 p 2

[Editorial: "Export LICENSES"]

[Text] The Swedish electronics company L. M. Ericsson has repeatedly attempted to sell to the Soviet Union telephone exchanges it has produced. The attempts have not led to any results.

A Soviet buyer is reported to be interested in the exchanges, especially in the included U.S. technology, but it has not been willing to buy the exchange equipment directly from the Swedish company because the purchase would then be done in freely exchangeable Western currencies.

For this reason, L. M. Ericsson has attempted to make this sale through Finland by adding it into the Finnish export quota. The payments in this case would be done in rubles.

The License Agency has taken a negative stand on this sale by referring to the low content of domestic production share. The company now has submitted a new application and tried to prove that the domestic production share of the telephone exchanges is as high as 80 percent. It appears that a sizeable amount of planning done in the Finnish L. M. Ericsson factory has been included as Finnish work.

Since it appears that our export to the Soviet Union will have to be reduced considerably for many so-called new export products, it is understandable that the License Agency cannot approve Finland as a corridor for Swedish telephone exchanges without thorough explanations. It is understandable that it is in Finland's interest to see to it that its work and workers above all will gain advantages and that the products exported to the Soviet Union will include the smallest amount possible of imported elements.

Tightened License Procedure

Helsinki HELSINGIN SANOMAT in Finnish 10 Nov 81 p 27

[Article by Markku Hurmeranta]

[Text] The United States is tightening up export limitations for components used by the electronic industry.

An object of the tightening license procedure is for example export to the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia and China by the Swedish L. M. Ericsson Company of telephone exchanges based on the company's own license.

Besides having to deal with the U.S. export prohibition, the L. M. Ericsson affiliate operating in Finland had not yet acquired a permit from the Finnish License Agency for its sale to the Soviet Union.

The United States requires a special export license for all electronic products which it considers to have strategic significance. The export of components alone to the socialist countries is totally prohibited, but export licenses have been granted for them as parts of ready-assembled equipment. In addition, there is a group of products based on U.S. manufacturing licenses whose export has been totally prohibited outside U.S. allies.

The last time the U.S. Government interfered with export of components was during the Moscow Olympics when Jimmy Carter expanded the totally prohibited list of components.

If President Ronald Reagan's administration begins to interpret export limitations of components even more restrictively in the future, it will also have an effect on Finnish industry. Components manufactured on American licenses in the cheap export countries are used not only by the "purely domestic electronic industry" but also by electronics manufacturers operating in Finland but owned by foreigners.

The manufacturers can attempt to substitute for the American components with, for example, German or Japanese products in their export to the socialist countries.

However, this is not possible in all cases, as many Western manufacturers of components have followed the U.S. example in their export policies.

Postponement in the Handling of LME License Application

The Finnish affiliate of the L. M. Ericsson Company still waiting for an export permit from the License Agency for the telephone exchange it sold to the Soviet Union last January. The company's first application for an export permit was turned down last summer by the License Agency.

The License Agency is now investigating the company's new application in which they attempt to prove that the export sale is 84 percent Finnish. "However, the handling of the application has been postponed for the time being on request from the company," says the License Agency director, Martti Sumi.

According to the managing director of the L. M. Ericsson Co. Yngve Ollus, the postponement is caused by the fact that the company wants to submit to the License Agency additional information on the content of domestic production share of the planning for the system.

Estimating this proportion of software is becoming the major issue in granting the permit L. M. Ericsson is vying for. In connection with this sale, software mainly refers to the work in planning that is necessary in programming the telephone exchange according to the requests from the subscriber. The License Agency now will have to estimate how much of this work is being done in the factories operating in Finland and how large a proportion belongs to the pool of basic knowledge being bought from the mother company in Sweden.

According to Ollus, the proportion of foreign components in the telephone exchange sold to the Soviet Union is about 10 percent. Besides this, the domesticity degree suffers from the licensing fee paid to the mother company.

Most commonly, products of the electronic industry exported from Finland to the Soviet Union have been expected to have an 80 percent share of domestic production. The domestic production requirements for the export products are decided according to director Sumi, however, always case by case. The domesticity of foreign sales is always checked by the agency whether it is a question of a Finnish or foreign export enterprise.

The fully digital telephone exchange sold by the L. M. Ericsson Company is based on the so-called AXE manufacturing license that has been developed by the Swedish mother company. The value of the sale is about FMK 35 million.

Apart from the License Agency, the domestic production is also eagerly watched by competitors who freely supply information to the controlling officials.

At present, the dispute involves not so much a particular sale as the fact of who will be the first one to sell to the Soviet Union the basic system based on one's own manufacturing license. Success in this endeavor opens up enormous markets in the near future because it is estimated that the USSR telephone network grows by 5 to 6 million connections per year.

The manufacturer who makes a sale on its basic system also has hopes of supplementing its system later by exchange systems based more completely on computers.

Of those enterprises operating in Finland, L. M. Ericsson is now about to sell to the Soviet Union, telephone exchanges based on the so-called AXE system. The Yugoslav Nikola Tesla factory also holds the Swedish license.

Also the multinational ITT is viewing the Soviet markets through Yugoslavia. It has sold the manufacturing license it developed to the Yugoslav Iskra factory.

Among Finnish companies, Nokia is trying to sell to the Soviet Union telephone exchanges based on the French Cit-alcatel license.

9571

CSO: 5500/2061

MINISTER DISCUSSES OUTLOOK FOR LOCAL RADIO SERVICE

Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 3 Dec 81 p 5

[Text] It is definite that the thought of local radio service is being taken up again, but the activity must be run by professional media people and have a responsible journalistic niveau. This warning against amateur radio in Norway comes from the broadcasting service in a letter to Culture Minister Lars Roar Langset. It also warns against an occasional trial run for local radio and cable television. The Storting should first discuss media policy as a whole, it says.

In the letter to Langset it is pointed out that there are many applications for permission to operate cable TV and radio. "It will be both practically, economically, and technically impossible to give permission for trial operation to all applicants. Only a small number can make the attempt. Such limitation will imply political limitations that can have long-range effects on media and on the society," the broadcasting system said.

It insists that it is too casual to give permission to local radio organizations just because they have applied for broadcast time. Local radio service is a form of broadcasting that requires a good cultural political base. We do not have this today.

Local radio service should be independent of strong organizations and local pressure groups, and it should not develop into a local discotheque. The broadcasting system thinks that media policy should begin where the broadcasting debate broke off in 1975.

Satisfied

"We have noticed with satisfaction that the new government is trying to end the Norwegian Broadcasting System's monopoly on broadcasting," the leadership in the Norwegian Listener's Association said in a statement.

"The Norwegian Broadcasting System's monopoly goes back to the 1930's when it seemed natural to organize the national development of a broadcasting service as a monopoly. Fifty years' technical development have created completely new conditions, and the monopoly rule should be ended," the "Listeners' Association wrote.

9124

CSO: 5500/2063

MINISTER COMMENTS ON NORDSAT APPROVAL DECISION

Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 25 Nov 81 p 5

[Text] Nordsat broadcasts can begin as early as 1987-88. The year's interminable discussions have ended. Now a clear path has been cut for practical negotiations on Nordic television cooperation via satellite. This will include a broader program offering, and not least important: Nordsat will mean large markets for Norwegian industry. First of all, there will be hill equipment and receiver sets that Norway will profit from.

On Monday the Nordic countries, with the exception of Denmark, signed the Nordsat agreement. Minister of Culture Lars Roar Langslet calls this agreement an important turning point and rejects statements that it means that Nordsat is dead.

"Norway has always wanted a binding agreement over a large area," Langslet said. "But," Langslet said to AFTENPOSTEN, "the economic and political problems in the other countries were so great that this could not be realized." Now he says that the pared down Nordsat agreement that has been accepted is of great significance for Nordic television cooperation.

"What is really important is that a model has been found that can be followed," the minister of culture said. He believes that the dynamics of the developments in this area will lead to more important things after the modest beginning.

As for Denmark's not signing the agreement, he said: "This is a genuine uncertainty. But when the other 4 Nordic countries have agreed upon an initial plan, I believe it is probable that Denmark will join it."

Langslet emphasized that the Nordsat agreement will mean great possibilities of selection for viewers. "We know that foreign television broadcasts will reach us in increasing numbers, and here it is very important that the voice of the north not be drowned out," the minister of culture said.

"It would be a cultural political defeat for the whole north if our peoples should receive, for example, English, German, and French broadcasts, and the only thing they did not get to see on their screens would be the programs of their neighbors," Langslet said, and continued: "Now there is a resolution that we in the north will not be passive receivers of programs from other countries, but will carry out a gradual development of Nordic TV programs."

in the beginning this development will take place by means of so-called rotating program responsibility. It is planned that two or three channels will be available. In this beginning phase it is thought that each of the Nordic countries will receive a week's access to broadcast their own programs.

The idea is to expand this offering to a more comprehensive system of channels. This will lead to Norway's receiving its Channel 2. After this, the goal is for Norway to obtain another channel. Before these 2 extra channels can be realized, comprehensive preparatory work is necessary.

Culture Minister Langslet is in favor of establishing an independent television company in the future. The minister believes that an independent company can cause us to have many perspectives about the subjects and problems presented to the viewers.

"More programs and channels mean more means of presenting the same material that is prepared. The goal is to create more and better Norwegian television programs," Lars Roar Langslet said. He believes that a future independent Norwegian television company can be owned by newspapers, publishing houses, and large organizations.

9124

CSO: 5500/2063

TELEVERKET PREPARES TO BUY DIGITAL PHONES

Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 8 Dec 81 p 10

[Text] Just after the new year, Televerket [Telecommunications Agency] will ask for bids on the delivery of digital telephone exchange equipment for the years 1982-87. The bids will include equipment for 500,000 telephone numbers. The bids are due in April, and by fall it is thought that the offers will have been evaluated and that it will have been decided which system is to be selected. The leadership in Televerket intends to obtain only one system in this first period, among other things to get the greatest amount of competition between potential suppliers of the equipment, according to Technical Director Per Mortensen of the Communications Directorate in a speech to the Oslo division of the Norwegian Civil Engineers Association.

Mortensen said that by the end of 1985 the goal is to have new exchanges in Trondheim, Kristiansand, and Stavanger, together with a new transit exchange in Oslo. In the next year one hopes to have in operation digital exchanges in Lillestrom, Porsgrunn, Sandnes, two stations in Bergen, two new ones in Trondheim, and one in Harstad. In 1987, three digital exchanges will come to the Oslo area, and further ones in Ski, Fredrikstad, Skien, Tonsberg, Sandviken in Bergen, Heimdal, and Bodo.

"This requires significant insight into planning methods, an overview of the technology development, and knowledge of systems that are in developmental and construction phases and that are up to date as components in the Norwegian telenet. Unfortunately, the situation is not easy as far as such planning capacity is concerned. I am thinking here of the large number of qualified engineers who have left Televerket during recent years. In the meantime, we can be confident that the authorities will solve their part of the problems we have in the recruiting and paying of specialists. We hope that we will be able to keep control of the introduction of the new equipment," he said.

Televerket believes that the digital equipment will give an essentially cheaper telenet all in all--with noticeably less investment for every new subscription than with today's analogous equipment.

9124

CSO: 5500/2063

COSTLY POLICY OF AGENCY'S DOMESTIC EQUIPMENT PURCHASE REPORTED

Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 11 Dec 81 p 22

[Text] In the last 3 years, Televerket has had to pay out over 710 million kroner in extra payments to buy Norwegian produced telephone exchanges. Compared to prices on the world market, each new telephone number costs about 3,000 kroner more here in this country. Just this year Televerket is "losing" 240 million kroner by buying Norwegian produced telephone exchanges.

Technical chief Alf Marhaug Televerket says to AFTENPOSTEN that here at home there is a demand that the telephone equipment Televerket buys be produced in Norway. A telephone exchange of the type 10 C, which is a data guided exchange, with, for example, 10,000 numbers, costs Televerket 50 million kroner.

The exchanges are delivered by Standard Telephone and Cable Factory, Ltd, or Electric Bureau, Ltd. In addition, all equipment is delivered that a subscriber needs to use his telephone, Marhaug said.

If one goes to the neighboring country of Denmark, such exchanges are quite a bit cheaper. Senior assistant Soren Sorensen in Copenhagen's telephone corporation tells AFTENPOSTEN that a corresponding exchange with 10,000 numbers costs 18 million kroner today.

If one compares these prices, a telephone number in an exchange in Norway costs 3,200 kroner more than in Denmark. "At present we have delivery contracts with two firms, L.M. Ericsson in Sweden, and Siemens in West Germany. We receive bids for telephone exchanges and select the firms on the world market that can give us the best service and the most favorable prices," Sorensen said.

Information consultant Arlid Gulbrandsen of the Telephone Directorate said to AFTENPOSTEN that this year exchanges are being bought with capacity for 95,000 new telephone numbers. Last year the figure was 80,000, and the year before 62,000. All together, this is 237,000 new numbers in 3 years.

"This cost a total of 7.6 billion kroner. We estimate that the 95,000 new main subscriptions this year will cost about 2.5 billion kroner," Gulbrandsen said.

This means that Televerket could have bought each number approximately 3,000 kroner cheaper by turning to deliverers on the world market. For several years, Televerket has used Norwegian deliverers. The purchases have been based on 4 year agreements that run out with the new year. Next year Televerket will decide who will deliver the new digital telephone exchanges that will characterize telephone development for this decade.

New Evaluation of Purchases

"We know that the prices for telephone equipment on the world market are lower than here at home. The whole purchase arrangement in Televerket will now be taken up anew, among other things, in connection with the purchase of the new digital telephone exchanges. The main question will be whether Televerket will support Norwegian industry at any price," Bjorn Andersen, the personal secretary to Cabinet Minister Inger Koppernaes in the Ministry of Transport and Communications relates to AFTENPOSTEN.

He says that the so-called Tele-committee with Bernt H. Lund at the head will present its position on these questions 5 January. This committee has among other things looked at the price differences in telephone equipment in Norway and on the world market.

"Part of the explanation why Televerket pays more for the equipment it buys here at home than, for example, Denmark does, could be that more specially produced equipment is necessary here. It also could be connected to the fact that Norway is a small market and that we need special series sizes in the construction of the telephone net," Andersen said.

He pointed out that in a series of points social and industrial policy are mixed up. For a number of years Televerket has subsidized Norwegian industrial jobs.

"In the spring a Storting report will be presented on these questions based on the Tele-committee's position. Today, industrial policies are affecting Televerket's budget, but the question is whether we will continue with this," Andersen emphasized.

9124
CSO: 5500/2063

NORWAY

BRIEFS

PHONE-SERVICE DELAY ADDRESSED--As early as spring the government will suggest action to eliminate phone service delays, according to Undersecretary Karl-Wilhelm Sirkka in a speech in Karlsøy in Troms Saturday. In doing this, the government will not wait until the Tele-committee has prepared its report on the new teleservices before it attacks the phone service delays, which at the end of the year amounted to 92,000 orders. "All efforts must now be made to do something about the wait for the telephones," Sirkka said. He criticized the Labor Party's members in the Storting's Transportation and Communications Committee for wanting to wait for the Tele-committee's report before doing anything. [Text] [Oslo APTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 30 Nov 81 p 27] 9124

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